MONTEREY COUNTY
LABOR NEWS

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YOUR CONGRESSMAN REPORTS



By GEORGE E. OUTLAND

THE PROBLEM OF ABSENTEEISM in war production plants has received a great deal of publicity during the past few weeks. Congress as well as the general American public is concerned over any undue absence from war work, and is anxious to get at the root of the problem. For two weeks your representative has been participating in the hearings of the House Labor Committee investigating absenteeism. While the hearings of this committee have not yet been published, it is not disclosing official secrets to point out a few of the more pertinent and important findings.

First of all, the amount of factual material is negligible. Figures on absenteeism are scarce and in many cases inaccurate. With the exception of a few individual plants, the only available material of merit has come from studies of the Department of Labor and the War Production Board. Consequently, there is not sufficient data to warrant extreme conclusions of ANY nature. On the basis of the material that was brought out in the Committee hearings, the following points appear clear:

USED LOOSELY

1) "Absenteeism" is a term that is used loosely, and with different meanings by different individuals and groups. It includes voluntary and involuntary absence from work, even, in some cases, covering those instances where a plant has had to shut down temporarily for lack of materials.

2) Absenteeism has not risen in most industries over the rate in "normal" times, and in many cases has not approached the rate in World War I. With more women and more older people now entering war plants, however, the chances are all in favor of an increasing absentee rate of a non-voluntary nature.

3) Causes of absenteeism are many and complex. The principal cause is sickness. A report from shipyards on our own Pacific Coast revealed that from 40 to 50 per cent of ALL absenteeism was due to illness. Accidents at work and illness in the family are similar causes, closely related to sickness of the worker. Inadequate transportation facilities, poor housing in industrial areas, inadequate planning of plant production are other factors that loom large as causes for absences from work.

4) "Wilful" absenteeism, that is, deliberate absence from work without adequate social or personal reason, is much less important than is generally realized. This point was emphasized again and again before the Committee by representatives of management, of labor, and of government.

The representative of the War Production Board testified that "the inference of critics that inexcusable absences are responsible for a large percentage of lost time is . . . definitely erroneous". The vice president of a large steel company in West Virginia testified that the so-called wilful absentee rate at his plant was considerably less than one per cent.

Perhaps the most illuminating statement regarding this particular point is contained in a memorandum from Aircraft War Production Council Inc., representing the management of Consolidated, Douglas, Lockheed, Northrup, North American, Ryan, Vega, and Vultee, issued March 15, 1943:

"The conclusion of the Los Angeles area companies is that aircraft production has not been retarded in any important and widespread degree by absenteeism in our plants. . . . Materials shortages and imbalances have been the limit-

(Continued on Page 4)



DANCE FOR RED CROSS AT SALINAS IS SUCCESS

HUGE CROWD PACKS ARMORY FOR BENEFIT BALL UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF LABORITES

It's all over but the shouting is still continuing! They're still talking about the huge success of the Organized Labor benefit dance at the Salinas Armory last Saturday to raise funds for the Red Cross.

One of the largest gatherings ever to crowd into the Armory was on hand for the ball—more than 900 tickets were sold at the door in one of the greatest charity events ever staged in Salinas.

And it was an orderly assemblage, too, despite the crowding and nary an argument marred the evening's festivities despite the fact that the Army's military police were unable to be on hand.

AUIXLIARY BUSY

The check room was conducted by the Carpenters' Ladies Auxiliary and was busy throughout. Bill Kerns and Sterling Howe ran the soft drink stand.

A dance band from Fort Ord (the 195th) with some 20 musicians provided music for dancing and the music was described as "tops". Col. Gritton was instrumental in helping secure the band.

KENYON IS EMSEE

Labor Council W. G. Kenyon acted as master of ceremonies, introducing Acting Mayor Oran Shannon of Salinas, C. A. McAdams of the Red Cross, and others.

Checks totaling in excess of $600 were presented from unions to the Red Cross war fund. The total proceeds of the dance itself were not figured at time of this writing.

USO HOSTESSES

Hostesses to dance with the servicemen were provided through the USO and were in charge of Dorothy Woods. Capt. Hutcheson, Armory custodian, was helpful in general arrangements. All committee members were introduced and were applauded.

The committee for the affair included J. B. McGinley, Helen Norman, W. G. Kenyon, J. F. Mattos, Mrs. Dorothey McAnaney, Don McAnaney, George Harter, and others.

In Union Circles

SALINAS

George Harter was "official stamper" at the dance last Saturday, getting to hold the hand of every lady who entered. But then, look at all the rough old calloused hands he had to hold also in his duties—!

* * *

The dance committee all looked very tired after the last dance, but very happy and proud of the fact that they had completed a job for a great cause—a job really well done!

* * *

Acting Mayor Shannon and Red Cross Official C. A. McAdams complimented Organized Labor very highly this week for their part in behalf of the Red Cross.

* * *

Efforts are being made to organize the new hydration plant here. The Monterey Cannery Workers Union is being interested, as are the Teamsters.

* * *

Teamsters 287 sent a $25.00 check to the Salinas Red Cross last week.

* * *

A labor council donation of $30 to the Red Cross was voted last week.

* * *

A list of stores which failed to support the Red Cross drive and Labor's dance for the Red Cross is being compiled for reference of local union men.

WHAT THE UNIONS REPORT

Salinas, California

Carpenters — Routine meeting featured by special visitors, Don Nagle, Seabees recruiting officer, and Helen Norman and J. B. McGinley, of the Red Cross Dance committee. The Carpenters Union and its auxiliary joined in a $100 donation to the Red Cross. Special meeting coming soon on increasing wage scale.

* * *

Bartenders—Voted donations of $20.00 to the Red Cross.

* * *

State Employes — No meeting held but members helping Red Cross dance ticket sale.

* * *

Carpenters' Auxiliary—Held special meeting to lay plans for aiding Red Cross dance.

OUTLAND SETS PACIFIC COAST HOUSING TOUR

Congressman George E. Outland, with other members of a house subcommittee, will visit the Pacific coast soon to conduct a survey of housing conditions in the States of California, Oregon and Washington, according to news dispatches from Washington.

The group, headed by Congressman A. J. Elliott of Kern county, is expected to assemble in Los Angeles next week to begin an investigation of housing, schools, hospitals, fire houses, recreation, sanitation and other facilities in the three states.

After spending three or four days in Los Angeles and San Diego, the committee plans to tour Ventura, Santa Barbara, Monterey, Kern, Tulare, Fresno and Sacramento counties and then head for San Francisco, Oregon and Washington.

Other members of the committee are Representatives McGregor (R-Ohio), Holmes (R-Mass.) and Boykin (D-Ala.)

SEAMEN DECLARE HITLER GETTING PART OF OIL NOW GOING TO FRANCO

Washington, D. C.

Twenty seamen, members of the National Maritime Union and all of them in from the North Africa run, the Atlantic run or the Russian run, came to Washington recently to tell the State Department and the War Shipping Administration about two serious beefs they had on their minds.

To the State Department, the seamen, several of whom were torpedo survivors, brought a copy of a resolution passed at NMU port meetings protesting shipment of war supplies (oil, etc.) to Franco Spain, and their well grounded suspicion that they were being used against the United Nations.

At the War Shipping Administration, they voiced protests against the new war risk insurance policy of WSA that makes it impossible to get compensation for injury or death at sea unless directly due to enemy action. This new ruling, they said, bars compensation to men who die in life boats after their ship has been sunk, and also bars assignment of benefits in case of death to anyone but "blood relatives." Many seamen have their relatives in occupied countries, and cannot assign their insurance to them.

STATE DEPARTMENT POLITE

The men were politely received at the State Department, they said—and told that the department would gladly hear any evidence that oil to Franco was being handed over to the Axis. According to the men, they have seen Spanish tankers at sea in a condition very obviously indicating that they have recently unloaded their cargo—with more than a strong suspicion that it went to U-boats.

Just by way of pointing up the seamens' protests to WSA and the State Department, the Navy announced that 288 U. S. merchant seamen were lost at sea during February. The known total between September, 1941, and March, 1943, now stands at 3,905.

The first and best victory is to conquer self; to be conquered by self is, of all things, the most shameful and vile.—PLATO.

Patton, Farmers' Union Head, Says Planning Needed To Increase Food

Washington, D. C.

An investment of one billion dollars and a little planning would increase food production of close to 1.5 million farmers, James G. Patton, president of the Natl, Farmers Union, said in releasing a new NFU plan.

Under the Farmers Union plan, which could be put into immediate are now producing under capacity operation, 1,390,000 farmers who would be brought into full productive operation on the food-for-victory front, Patton pointed out.

These farmers would then be able to show sharp increases in food production, just as the 463,000 farmers helped by the Farm Security Administration last year showed big increases when given government aid.

These FSA-help farmers, though only 7.6 per cent of the farm population, produced 36 per cent of the total 1942 increase in milk, 27 per cent of the increase in beans, 10 per cent of the increase in eggs, chickens and peanuts, and nine per cent of the increase in pork, he said.

PRICES NOT WHOLE ANSWER

Prices are not the answer to the need for stepping up food output to meet the needs of our armed forces, our allies and the home front, Patton explained.

"In, of and by themselves, prices cannot be relied upon to produce vital foods in the kinds and quantities needed. Reliance upon parity prices will not get increased food production. Increase of parity prices by the inclusion of cost of farm labor, paid or unpaid, will not do the job. Parity was not invented or designed to get production; its purpose was to assure the relative position of farmers in our economy."

He urged cuts in production of surplus and non-essential crops, concentration on war foods; full utilization of all farms and farm families, including re-equipment where needed, and generally greater concentration on the family-type farm.

NAZI SLAVE MART BADLY DISRUPTED BY SABOTAGE AND REVOLTS, REPORT

Washington, D. C.

Open sabotage and passive resistance, spreading like wildfire among the conquered workers of Europe, is upsetting the Nazi scheme to replace lost manpower with enslaved labor.

"Facts and information smuggled out of German-occupied Europe prove that the wave of labor resistance is rising slowly but irresistably," reported Omer Becu, prominent Belgian labor leader now in the United States.

His information, smuggled out through the underground, tallies with the latest OWI reports. These reports show that the Nazis, frantically trying to check slowdowns in their seized factories, find their new forced labor decrees only add more fuel to the flame.

"The Nazi attempts to suppress the underground, said Becu, are doing the Fascists no good at all. Open suppression, tricks and subterfuge by the Nazis only stiffens resistance among the conquered workers.

"Every blow of the enemy is answered by a corresponding move of the workers. Production is slowly lowered from day to day with the result that certain industries, notwithstanding the same and even higher numbers of employed workers, show a decline of about 30 per cent and in some instances higher than 50 per cent, as against previous days," he continued.

"Other means serve similar purposes. Work orders are deliberately delayed; strikes flare up sporadically; workers claim higher food rations and usually get them; and last, but not least, sabotage is being used in every conceivable way."

—Buy U. S. War Bonds!—

AMERICAN HEROES



The Japs kicked him in the face and stomach, smashed him with their fists, knifed him, jabbed him with a pitchfork and left him for dead, but Pvt. E. O. Moore came through this ordeal. Now *you* come through. You've done your bit; now do your best—Buy more War Bonds.

U. S. Treasury Dept.

READ THIS AT NEXT MEETING!

"The union is a wonderful slot-machine," thought the new worker as he cashed his increased paytime. You put your dollar in every month, and out come wage raises, better conditions, paid vacations and job security. Even if you do something you ought to be fired for, it's up to the union to fix it up."

Of course no real union man or woman thinks like that. But doesn't each one of us know some union members who do think like that, or act as if they did? They're always on the "get" end of the union and never give anything to it. They build nothing and pull down what others are building. And they don't see that the union is battling not only for their pocketbooks, but for a new social and economic structure for the nation.

We have our union today because years ago workers with less hours to spare and less money to spend than we, risked all they had to build it. Today millions of union members are reaping in every pay envelope the fruit of those earlier battles and sacrifices. But a union stays strong, democratic and successful only as long as we, its members, put into it not only dues but time, energy and ideas, attend meetings, educational conferences, vote in elections and take responsibility.

Urges Unions to Co-operate With VFW to Improve Canteen Service

San Francisco, California.

(CFLNL)That excellent service is being provided by the Veterans of Foreign Wars in collaboration with the California State Federation of Labor to the American boys now fighting on the many fronts is being impressively evidenced in the distribution of cigarettes and stationery, among other essential items, which contain the following notation: "Contributed by the California State Federation of Labor." What this will mean to the boys in the labor movement cannot be overestimated.

The plan making this possible, as worked out by the Federation with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, was to have all the unions donate whatever money they can afford to the Canteen Service now being maintained by the Veterans. By placing the name of the Federation on the articles distributed, the credit will redound to the whole labor movement.

This explains why it was considered advisable to operate in this manner, giving the boys a chance not only to obtain necessary articles, but at the same time impressing upon them that the labor movement is behind them all the way.

Secretary Vandeleur wishes to stress the importance to all the unions of continuing and expanding this meritorious service and urges the union to cooperate with the Veterans of Foreign Wars to accomplish this end.

California Labor Helps Get Raise For Employees of U. S. Postoffice

San Francisco, California.

(CFLNL)—Providing for an annual wage increase of $300 for the nation's postal employes, H. R. 1366 was recently passed by the House of Representatives, with a total of 381 yeas being registered in its favor. On the eve of the House's consideration of the bill, the California State Federation of Labor, following up its long campaign for wage increases for these employees, sent telegrams to all the California representatives, urging support to the measure. Their speeches and votes in the House, and the many replies to the telegrams which have been received by Secretary Vandeleur indicate their enthusiastic backing of the bill.

The raise, the first for these employees in 18 years, is only a temporary one. It would apply to all employees in the field service of the Post Office; those on an hourly, fee, part-time or per diem basis would receive a 15 per cent increase, not, however to exceed $300 in one year. If passed by the Senate and approved by the President, the raise would go into effect on May 1, 1943, but would continue only for the duration of the war and for six months thereafter at the most, as it could be halted at an an earlier date by joint action of the Senate and the House.

HEY, GRUMBLERS! HOW ABOUT THIS?

Grumbling, complaining, or as it's more often termed, griping, is an art.

The trouble is that not many people know how to practice it.

These are the times when a person has no right to grumble:

1. When he is asked to do no more than everyone else is asked to do:

2. When the thing he is grumbling about is something which was decided upon by the majority of those voting;

3. When he himself refused to take part in making the decision he is grumbling about, by not going to the union meeting, not discussing the issue, or not voting.

If a person wants to be a really constructive grumbler, here are some rules he must follow:

1. The place to make complaints on union matters is through the regular channels. If you have a grievance, take it to the shop committee. Just beefing about it won't help anybody, last of all you.

2. The place to debate and criticize union decisions is at the union meeting, before they are made. By raising your objections then, so that they can be brought to the attention of all the members, you are doing the union a real service and helping the local to a wise decision.

Cheerio!

Little bankroll, ere we part,
Let me press you to my heart,
All the year I've worked for you,
I've been faithful, you've been true.
Little bankroll in a day
You and I will go away,
To some gay and festive spot;
I'll return—but you will not,

Labor Protests 'Gag' Method In Sacto. Hearings

Debate On Controversial Labor Bills Choked Off By Committee's Ruling

Sacramento, California.

(CFLNL) — The following self-explanatory letter from Secretary Vandeleur was sent to Assemblyman John C. Lyons because he was one member of the Assembly Sub-Committee on Finance and Insurance who objected to the throttling of the 14 vitally important bills which were heard on Tuesday evening, March 30, and which would emasculate the Unemployment Insurance Act in California. Immediately following the letter the bills which were considered are defined.

March 31, 1943

Assemblyman John C. Lyons,
State Capitol,
Sacramento, California.

Dear Mr. Lyons:

In keeping with the position taken by the California State Federation of Labor to protect the unemployment insurance fund of this state and to weed out "chiselers," our representatives were present last evening at a meeting of your Sub-Committee in the hope of expressing the views of the Federation regarding the merit of the fourteen controversial bills to be heard. We were wholly unprepared for the reception we received since it was only reasonable to suppose that all parties concerned would be interested in obtaining a fair presentation of both sides of each and every question.

HELD TO TWO MINUTES

Before we were permitted to speak regarding these unemployment insurance proposals the Chairman of your Sub-Committee, Mr. John B. Knight, ruled, in what we consider an arbitrary manner, that only two minutes would be allowed each speaker on the bills. This unfair ruling precluded adequate consideration of their meaning, let alone ascertaining the significance of the technical provisions which the bills contained. No reasonable and comprehensive discussion was permitted of legislation which so vitally affects the interest of millions of wage earners in this state as well as thousands of California employers.

We are informed that the Sub-Committee will pass its recommendations to the full committee on the results of this insufficient and entirely unsatisfactory hearing at which our representatives participated only under protest.

PROTESTS FILED

It is our earnest conviction that no objective and meritorious recommendations could possibly be made on the basis of the hearing held last night. We wish to register a protest with the members of the Assembly so that they will be apprized as to what has transpired and understand that we were not afforded the opportunity to be heard which is accorded to all citizens under the fundamental principles of democratic government; however, the Federation is eager to approach this important matter constructively. We hope that calling attention to this unsatisfactory occurrence will result in some remedial steps being taken to rectify the serious mistake which has been made.

Sincerely yours,
Edward D. Vandeleur,
Secretary,
CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

* * *

The following bills were the technical measures which the Sub-Committee left to a hasty examination:

A.B. 813 (T. Fenton Knight): Establishes system of dual benefits for persons seasonally employed so as to distinguish between seasonal and non-seasonal wages as a basis for benefits.

A.B. 1225 (John B. Knight et al): Restricts benefits for partially unemployed persons engaged in short-time work or working for several employers interchangeably where wages vary from week to week.

A.B. 1226 (John B. Knight et al): Amends and revises entire procedure relating to claims for benefits: initial determination, appeals, etc.

A.B. 1227 (John B. Knight et al): Omits tips and gratuities not accounted for by the employee to the employer from the term "wages" in determining benefits. Defines working "week".

A.B. 1228 (John B. Knight et al): Repeals section of Unemployment Insurance Act relating to guaranteed employment plans and private systems of unemployment insurance.

A.B. 1229 (Carlson et al): Provides refunds to workers employed by more than one employer of tax paid on wages in excess of $3,000, but contains joker excluding college students from benefits.

A.B. 1230 (Howser et al): Provides employee cannot refuse job as unsuitable, when he has performed such work during six months out of the previous year, merely because of physical or mental inability at the time of requested benefits.

A.B. 1231 (T. Fenton Knight et al): Cuts down number of workers eligible for benefits, but redefines who is "unemployed through no fault of his own." Penalizes applicants making false statements or failing to state facts by depriving them of 52 weeks' benefits. No such penalties for false statements imposed on employers. Deducts all and any earning of workers from weekly benefits.

A.B. 1232 (John B. Johnson et al): Reduces interest on delinquent contributions by employers from 1% to ½% per month. Curtails power of Commission to prevent unemployment.

A.B. 1233 (Fourt et al): Employing unit electing to come under act required to establish to to the satisfaction of the Commission that it is normally and continuously engaged in a "regular" business.

A.B. 1234 (McCollister et al): Reduces percentage of benefits charged to employer's account from 100 per cent to 73 per cent. Repeals present provision for employers' contributions at general rate of 2.7 per cent when fund gets low, changing the rate to 2 per cent. Repeals present section providing that maximum benefits chargeable to an employer's account shall not exceed $468 in any one benefit year.

A.B. 1334 (Kraft et al): Exempts hospitals from provisions of the Unemployment Insurance Act.

The consideration of any one of these bills would necessitate allowing each speaker the time granted for all bills, if its real purpose and effect were to be brought out clearly.

Progress Seen For Labor in Legislature

Sacramento, California.

(CFLNL)—Highlighting the bills which have been acted upon favorably by various committees of the Assembly and Senate was the "do pass" signal given to **A. B. 516** as amended. This would exclude from the requirement of incorporating under state law all unions and organizations formed by them for insurance purposes, the latter being incidental to their main functions as trade union organizations.

A. B. 619, a Federation bill, to prohibit the use of scaffold jacks as supports for scaffolds, which have not only contributed to accidents but have also exposed men using them to serious consequences, was passed out of the Assembly Labor and Capital Committee.

A. B. 295, providing that an itemized statement in writing showing all deductions made from wages be furnished by the employer at the time of paying wages to any employees, either as a part of the check, draft or voucher or separately, and that a statement in writing be supplied to the employee on or before March 1 of each year showing the total compensation paid to the employee during the preceding calendar year, was also given the "do pass" signal.

A.B. 839, providing that tips will neither be included as part of wages nor release an employer from paying to women and minors at least the minimum wage fixed by the Industrial Welfare Commission, was given the nod by the committee. This has been a quarrelsome issue in several Minimum Wage Board hearings affecting culinary workers.

S. B. 855. This bill, the same as A. B. 1085, protects the status of members of the armed forces on civil service lists by extending period of discharge of such employees from the armed forces from within two years of effective date of this Section (1941) to within four years of that date (1945).

A Dog's Tale

"There was a little dachshund once
So long he had no notion
How long it took to notify
His tail of his emotion.

"And thus it was that while his eyes
Were filled with woe and sadness,
His little tail kept wagging on
Because of previous gladness."

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FALSE REASONING

One of the worst mistakes human beings make is to swallow somebody else's reasoning whole and accepting any conclusion on somebody else's say-so instead of reasoning out for themselves the proposition, whatever it may be.

In mathematics nobody is such a fool as to memorize answers as a substitute for solving the problem itself. Unless a student of mathematics can actually solve problems and state the fundamental principles underlying each step such student becomes a fit subject for being flunked. If he had every answer in the book memorized and could state the right answer correctly such worthless knowledge would avail him naught unless he also could demonstrate by correct and logical reasoning how these correct answers were arrived at.

The result of this sloppy method of thinking and reasoning is that millions of people become the fall guys by accepting false conclusions, having nothing for a basis but sophistry, which is a word that means false reasoning that may have the appearance of being truth, but which in reality is as false as it would be to say that two and two makes five. All the sophistry on earth could not change the fact that this conclusion is false.

Whenever we are presented with a reality, which confronts us in real life, there usually are many factors that contribute towards bringing it into existence. Instead of jumping at the first conclusion that suggests itself or accepting somebody else's confused and illogical reasoning why not sit down and reason it out the same as you do with a problem in mathematics?

If you cannot prove your conclusion by logical reasoning you might as well honestly admit that you don't know anything about it, that you never did understand why certain things happen and exist. All you know is that they do exist.

SOARING PRICES THE CHIEF CAUSE

A most perverted statement being made so often these days that a lot of people actually believe it is the unsound and untrue claim that present day high prices are caused solely and exclusively by present day high wages, or at least it is held to be the chief cause.

There is no logical foundation for this false conclusion. Yet it is repeated again and again until a lot of misinformed people, who never take the trouble to reason any problem out from beginning to end, accept it and parrot-like keep on repeating it till both they and such as listen to them get to believing it.

What is the truth about all this?

The truth is that price levels always rise before wages. Prices are manipulated and set by profiteers, who know no other law than to soak people all that the traffic will bear. That is the rule for real estate. That is the rule for rents. That is the rule for interest. That is the rule for all necessities of life. The only extent to which the much advertised law of supply and demand enters is that the scarcer any necessity of life becomes the easier it becomes to soak our people the limit. The more plentiful any commodity becomes the more difficult it becomes to either raise or maintain abnormally high prices.

When monopoly gets a stranglehold on any commodity the law of supply and demand becomes a mere joke. Monopoly soaks the people all they can be induced to pay. What remains is permitted to rot, or if unperishable, is left lying dormant, until conditions for soaking people more again improve.

In the final analysis the only law that operates today to any considerable extent is the one of "soaking the people all that the traffic will bear."

If government, trying to win a war, in desperation steps in to put a ceiling on prices, that will help to the extent that such ceilings are down to normal levels and to the further extent to which these ceiling prices may be enforced.

Another element that many people seem to never see is that when price levels rise that affects the entire population of our country, but when the wages of one tenth of one per cent of our workers is raised to induce them not to quit working that does not increase the buying power of the remainder of the population. To argue as so many people illogically do, that an increase in wages for one out of every one thousand workers is a sane or logical reason for increasing prices in general not only for the remaining 999 but also raising the prices on everybody else, including women, children and retired, to say nothing of others affected, who are not workers, simply does not make sense at all.

Many minor factors enter into fixing wage scales, which we will not go into in this discussion. Suffice it to say that the chief and principal reason for all demands for wage increases is that price levels and living costs were increased first and to a sufficient extent to really affect the standard of living. Those who do not know this simple and fundamental law of economics should study fundamentals before they start jumping at false conclusions.

GIGGLES AND GROANS

INVESTMENT RETURNED

Three farmers — the first from Michigan, the second from Illinois, and the last from Kansas—were waiting in the hallway of a maternity ward. Soon a nurse came out and called to the farmer from Michigan:

"Your wife just gave birth to an eight-pound girl!"

Delighted, the Michigan son of the soil passed cigars to everyone in sight. Later, the nurse came out and announced:

"The wife of the farmer from Illinois has had a nine-pound boy!"

Grinning broadly, the Illinois farmer exclaimed he was tickled pink, and passed out cigars.

The next time the nurse showed up she said:

"The Kansas farmer's wife has just had a two-and-a-half pound girl!"

The Kansan slapped his thigh, cheered, and passed cigars around.

One of the bystanders asked: "I can understand the enthusiasm about the eight-pound girl and the nine-pound boy, but what's there to get excited about when all you've got is a girl that weighs only two-and-a-half pounds?"

The new father answered: "Listen, we Kansas farmers are satisfied if we only get our seed back!"

* * *

TAKING THE SCENTSUS

The plumbing supply company that made a survey of Pacific Coast filling stations in rural districts found 28 per cent, or over 5,000 of them, are equipped with primitive types of outbuildings. The irrepressible idiot sends this information in with a note commenting: "And that is quite a phew."

* * *

ACME OF PARSIMONY

He was a salesman for a tool company and was famed for his persuasive manners and general success with the tightwaddingist customer. Up at Coalinga he ran against a five-minute egg in the person of a superintendent. He reached a dead end. Strolling about he hailed a workman who looked bright enough to know the answer.

"Say, friend," said the salesman, "give me the low down on this superintendent of yours. Is he so Scotch he can't even give a man an answer?"

Resting his barrow and shifting his quid the workman answered:

"Aw, I guess you mean old Grandad Freehart in there," jerking his thumb toward the office. "He's the kind of a guy who would marry Mae West for her money."

* * *

BUSINESS VS. PLEASURE

A cute little lass approached the floorwalker and asked, "Do you have notions on this floor?"

The floorwalker looked her over, and then remarked, "Yes, madam, but we suppress them during business hours."

* * *

CONSIDERABLE ALTERATIONS

Two old folks from San Luis Obispo happened to meet on a Long Beach street bus. Both were somewhat hard of hearing — and the following conversation transpired:

"Well, well — if it isn't Sally Brown."

"Why, Mr. Riley—it's a long time since you left San Luis."

"Why, Sally, years and years ago I used to turn you up and spank you good and hard."

"Yes, yes, Mr. Riley—you wouldn't know the old place now!"

* * *

BUTT OF THE JOKE

Sweet Young Thing: Please, could you tell me where I could get some silk covering for my settee?

Floorwalker—Two aisles down and one over for the lingerie department.

* * *

LIQUID ASSETS

Abie (waving hand): "Please teacher, may I be excused?"

Teacher: "No Abe, you stay in and fill up the inkwells."

* * *

FLEW THE COOP

"I hear you are going west this summer to start a chicken farm?"

"No, just to Reno to trade roosters!"

* * *

CANDID PREVARICATOR

A Newport man who was invited to a party at Bar Harbor, wired his regrets to his hostess: "Regret I can't come. Lie follows by post."

* * *

LINE UP, BOYS

Advertisement in a Titusville (Pa.) paper:

"Auctioneering is my special line of business. Prices very reasonable. If I am out, arrange dates with my wife."

* * *

DIRECTIONS FORTHCOMING

A businesswoman entertaining some businessmen at luncheon in a French restaurant, and not wishing to be obvious about paying the check, whispered to her waiter, when the meal was over, "L'addition, s'il vous plait." "Downstairs to your left, lady," he said.

* * *

* * *

It is the little bits of things that fret and worry us; we kan dedge an elefunt but not a fli.—JOSH BILLINGS.

* * *

Act as if it were impossible to fail. That is the talisman which turns up from failure to success.—GRANDE.

TESTED RECIPES — for — UNION HOME MAKERS

(Union housewives—and men who pride themselves in cooking—are asked to send favorite tested recipes to RECIPE EDITOR, 5823 Occidental St., Oakland. Be sure to give name, address and union).

Facts About Vitamin 'A'

In the last few columns we discussed the parts that the B and C vitamins play in a balanced daily diet. Another very important vitamin is Vitamin A (or carotene). Vitamin A is commonly known as the "blackout" vitamin, because it is so important in preventing night blindness. Vitamin A is important because it promotes growth, protects eyesight, helps prevent night blindness, helps the body resist infection, helps proper development of teeth.

Vitamin A is found in carrots, sweet potatoes, yellow cheese, apricots, prunes, liver, dairy products, yellow cornmeal and dried peas. Fortunately, Vitamin A unlike Vitamin B, can be stored in the body and is not usually injured in cooking. Liver is a very rich source of Vitamin A, besides being an excellent source of the B vitamins.

One serving of liver—2 ounces—gives you your fully daily share; ½ cup cooked spinach gives a full daily share; a medium sweet potato gives you a half of your daily share; one serving of carrots—½ cup—gives you a half of your daily share, and one serving of broccoli gives you almost a full share.

Use baked sweet potatoes instead of white potatoes whenever you can. Sweet potatoes contain all the vitamins and minerals that baked white potatoes do, in addition to a large share of Vitamin A. There is very little Vitamin A in the baked white potato. Think generally of yellow foods when you think of Vitamin A.

POEM OF THE WEEK

The Internationale

(Written by Eugene Pottier, this hymn of the working-class of all nations has perhaps been sung by more people than any other in history).

Arise, ye prisoners of starvation!
Arise, ye wretched of the earth,
For Justice thunders condemnation,
A better world's in birth.
No more tradition's chains shall bind us,
Arise, ye slaves! No more in thrall!
The earth shall rise on new foundations,
We have been taught, we shall be all.

Refrain

'Tis the final conflict,
Let each stand in his place,
The International Party
Shall be the human race.
Behond them seated in their glory,
The kings of mine and rail and soil!
What would you read in all their story
But how they plundered toil?
Fruits of the people's work are buried
In the strong coffers of a few;
In voting for their restitution
The men will only ask their due. (Refrain)

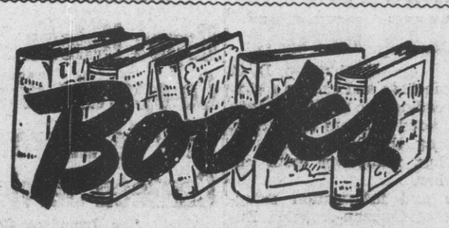
Toilers from shops and fields united,
The party we of all who work;
The earth belongs to us, the people,
No room here for the shirk.
How many on our flesh have fattened!
But if the noisome birds of prey
Shall vanish from our sky some morning,
The blessed sunlight still will stay. (Refrain).

YOUR COUNTRY IS IN PERIL!

By GERARD P. MEYER

Your country is in peril! Listen, bud—
This is no movie you can see or miss—
No newsreel of some other country: this
Is YOU, and not some dream from Hollywood—
And if you lose this war, my friend, YOUR blood
Will streak across the screen, while Nippies hiss
Their keen delight, and Nazis in their bliss
"Heil Hitler," while he stamps you into mud.

Get on that old assembly line right now—
Now, while the getting's good: for if you don't,
There'll be no later show, no second chance.
Bend to your task, or be prepared to bow
Your neck to Nazi boots: and, Mac, they won't
Wear rubber soles, but spikes! . . . Remember France?



THE VALLEY OF DECISION, by Marcia Davenport. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, N. Y. $3.00.

By all means, read this exciting and stirring novel, if you are particularly fond of family sagas. The Pittsburgh steel industry is the vivid background, with a story of four generations of the Scott family, ironmakers and steel makers. It takes in seven decades of American life beginning with Black Friday in 1873 and ending with the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. The changes in the steel industry, in the business and family life, are vividly portrayed. The novelist has a gift for bringing her characters to life. The leading character, Mary Rafferty, who begins as a servant in the Scott family, will particularly hold your interest.

Especially commendable is the second half of the book, where the author portrays the life of Czecho-Slovak workers and their role in the steel industry. Those who are acquainted with the life and manners of American workers of recent immigrant stock will find this part of the book extremely absorbing and authentic. The conflict of ideas, the impact of the recent European crisis on American industry, the changing business methods—all of these, woven into the personal dramas of the characters—make for exciting reading in this realistic novel.

FAR EASTERN WAR, 1937-1941, by Harold S. Quigley. World Peace Foundation, Boston, Mass., 2.50.

Here is a worthwhile volume which covers the history of the stormy Pacific in the four tempestuous years beginning with Japan's assault on China and ending with the attack on Pearl Harbor. The author is well-informed and the reader will be well compensated for carefully digesting the objective and lucidly presented contents. His analysis of progress and poverty in China, though cursory, is non-conventional and stimulating. To the author "Communism in China was an imported percussion cap fitting loosely on a native high explosive shell." He sees Japan as "a feudal wineskin bursting with the new wine of the industrial revolution." Quigley makes a thorough analysis of the major issues in the Sino-Japanese controversy. His examination of the "new national structure" in Japan is instructive. The book abounds in praise of Russian aid to China despite her own difficult position and stresses that "alone among the greater states, the United States, for nearly a century, has made respect for the independence of China the keynote of its Far Eastern Policy."

Labor Trouble Ahead Seen by Boss Magazine

New York City.

There's "labor trouble" ahead and it is not the workers' fault, Modern Industry, one of the nation's flossiest big business magazines, admitted recently with a candor that is lacking in daily newspapers of wider circulation.

The men of management are warned by the magazine that "there'll be slowdowns and quickies and wildcats that will play hob with war production" unless they do something about the following:

"Living costs, which in key war production areas, properly weighted to recognize those items that represent war workers' budget items, have increased far more than the 15 per cent permitted in the (Little Steel) formula.

"Increased taxes, particularly the income tax which will be paid for the first time by many war workers.

"Job freezing in many areas.

MUDDLED POLICIES

"Conflict between congressional desires, War Manpower Commission directives, Army and Navy plans, Selective Service policies and the whims of local draft boards on draft deferments.

"Pressure of food rationing—particularly the meat shortages and black market operations. (The editors apparently mean the lack of food rationing.)

"Inadequate transportation, housing, medical facilities, recreation.

"Conviction that neither corporations nor higher paid company executives are sacrificing equally with workers."

The magazine also takes Eddie Rickenbacker to task for a "one-sided approach to the problem of absenteeism which has served only to rouse the ire of labor groups that demonstrated their willingness to tackle the problem."

LITTLE LUTHER

"We're going places in this war at last," remarked Mr. Dilworth, looking up from the Chicago Tribune editorial page.

"Yes, it's wonderful what we are doing in Tunisia," Little Luther replied.

"But nothing to compare with what we did in Topeka. Did you seen that wonderful law they passed out there for the regulation of the unions?"

"But what have they done about beating the Axis?"

"That we can leave to the military men. Here at home we have a war to win against bureaucracy, governmental and unionistic."

"Don't you want to lick Hitler and Tojo, Pop?"

"Of course. Once we have Roosevelt on the run, it will be easy to get Hitler and Tojo."

"Into the White House?"

"I don't like to hear you expressing disloyal sentiments like that, my boy. As Sen. O'Daniel says, Roosevelt the commander-in-chief is one thing and Roosevelt the reformer is another. The same way with unions. Unions like Negroes are all right if they keep their places."

"In the Kansas jails?"

"Jails may be the only cure for absenteeism at that."

"But, Daddy, we weren't talking about absenteeism."

"It's all the same thing, Luther. The soft living under the New Deal and the independence of the workers under unionism are to blame for absenteeism. Give a worker an inch and he'll take a day off."

"So you and the Kansas legislature want to give him six inches —of lead pipe—over the head."

Swede Co-operatives To Make High Grade Of Synthetic Rubber From Wood Products

Stockholm, Sweden.

The Swedish Cooperative Union and Wholesale Society, Kooperativa Forbundet (KF) in pursuit of its policy of assisting the effort of Swedish economy to secure independence and self-sufficiency, has taken another step forward. By starting the production of synthetic rubber entirely out of Swedish raw materials, mainly wood products, at its rubber works at Gislaved, it has opened up the possibility of overcoming one of the most serious raw material shortages from which the country's industry is suffering at present.

The new product, which is named "Telax," can be vulcanized and is not inferior in quality to ordinary rubber, according to the Review of International Cooperation. It stood the test as raw material for the manufacture of bicycle tires, shoe heels and plastic products, but it is not durable enough to be used for motor tires, the manufacture of which requires rubber of very high quality. It can, however, be expected that the new product is still capable of improvement and research work with a view of improving it continuously.

Repeal of $25,000 Salary Ceiling By Reactionary Congress Simply Means Poor to Get Soaked More

We wonder just who is being represented by the great number of U. S. Senators and Congressman who voted to rescind President Roosevelt's $25,000 net ceiling salaries. Certainly it is not the millions of men and women who are doing their utmost to win the war by sweat and toil in the war industries of the land or the farmers who work from dawn to dark to provide the food.

For every individual in America who is benefitted by taking the lid off in the high-salaried classes, at least 100,000 men and women are harmed. The reason is quite obvious. Every dollar withheld from the government treasury through this leniency to the rich is going to have to be put in by persons in the low income brackets with either higher direct or indirect taxes. There is no other way out.

What a paradox! It is this small minority of high-salaried men who are not content with $25,000 a year after their taxes have been paid who are leading the fight for the retention of the Little Steel Wage formula which puts a ceiling of about $3000 a year on the worker before his taxes are deducted!

We do not believe that the act of Congress rescinding the $25,000 salary ceiling meets with the approval of the vast majority of citizens of these great United States. We believe this action constitutes rape of Democracy. It is high time for members of Organized Labor and the rank and file in general to express their wishes in no uncertain terms to their Congressmen and Senators.

President Roosevelt is against the move by Congress. He is attempting to fight our battles against the steam-roller tactics of lobbyists who are representing dollars and not persons. Let's show him that we appreciate his helping hand and join the fight with a will!

—Summit County Labor News.

MONTEREY

MIDWAY DRUG STORE
F. J. NICHOLAS
DRUGS—LIQUORS
Labor Temple, 601 Lighthouse Ave. Phone 6325 New Monterey.

MONTEREY UNION DIRECTORY

CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR—Vice-President for San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties—Thomas A. Small, San Mateo, California, Phone San Mateo 3-8789.

BAKERS 24 (Watsonville Branch)—Meets first Saturday of each month at 3 p.m. Pres., Jasper Svien, 202-C Third St., Rec. Sec., Martin Niebling, 28 East Ford St.; Bus. Rep., Fred L. Goudy, Labor Temple, San Jose, phone Ballard 6341.

BARBERS LOCAL 896—President Paul Mercurio; Secretary-Treas., A. H. Thompson, 243 Alvarado St., Monterey. Meetings held first Wednesday of each month at Bartenders' Hall, 301 Alvarado Ave.

BARTENDERS AND HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES 483—Meets first and third Mondays, 2:30 p.m. above The Keg, 301 Alvarado St., Pres., Arend Smith; Sec., Pearl Bennett; Bus. Agent, E. D. McCutcheon, 301 Alvarado Ave., Phone 6734.

BRICK MASON LOCAL UNION NO 16—Meets Carpenters' Hall second and fourth Friday, 8:00 P. M. President, F. B. Hair, P. O. Box 264, Watsonville; Fin.-Sec., M. Real, 154 Eldorado, Monterey, Phone 6745; Rec.-Sec., Geo. Houde, 208 Carmel Ave., Pacific Grove. Phone 3715.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF MONTEREY COUNTY—Meets every Thursday, 8:00 P. M., Carpenters' Hall. W. J. Dickerson, Pres.; H. E. Ferguson, Fin. Sec., Dale Ward, Bus. Mgr. Office: 701 Hawthorne St. Phone 6744, Res. Phone 5230.

BUTCHERS 506 (Monterey Branch)—Pres., Phil Mosley; Rec. Sec., Ben Updyke; Bus. Agt., Earl Moorhead, San Jose, Columbia 2132.

CARPENTERS 1323—Meet first and third Monday 8:00 p.m. at Carpenters' Hall, Monterey. Rec. Sec., W. J. Allen, 501 Forrest, Pacific Grove, phone 3263; Bus. Agent-Fin. Sec., D. L. Ward, 400 Gibson Ave., office phone 6744, Res. 5230.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS NO. 1072—Meet in Carpenters Hall, Monterey, second Monday, 7:30 P. M. President, E. E. Smith; Financial Secty., R. H. Van DeBogart, 310 5th St., Pacific Grove, Phone 4800.

FIVE COUNTIES LABOR LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE—Meets first Sunday each month at place announced. Pres., F. J. Carlisle; Vice.-Pres., Wayne Edwards; Rec. Sec., Sibyl Schneller; Sec.-Treas., Roy Hossack, Route 2, Box 144, Salinas, Phone Salinas 5460.

AFL FISH CANNERY WORKERS UNION OF PACIFIC, MONTEREY COUNTY—Meets on call. Pres., Louis Martin; Sec., Morgan King; Bus. Agent, Ivan Sinner, Office, 648 Ocean View Ave.

HODCARRIERS, BUILDING AND COMMON LABORERS 690—Meet in New Labor Temple, Monterey, first and third Wednesday, 8:00 p.m. Pres., Robert Dalton, 670 Cypress St.; Fin. Sec., H. E. Ferguson, P. O. Box 425, Monterey; Rec. Sec., Stanley Wilkins, Pacific Grove; Ross Reese, Bus. Agt.

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYES AND MOTION PICTURE OPERATORS, LOCAL 611—Meets first Tuesday every other month 10 a.m. in Watsonville Labor Temple; Pres., Art Reina, 13 Kentucky St., Salinas; Bus. Agent, James Wilson, 80 Payton St., Santa Cruz, Phone 2737-R; Rec. Sec., Chas. Covey, 364 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz.

LATHERS UNION NO. 463—Meets in Salinas Labor Temple second and fourth Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Roy R. Benge, Hillby St., Monterey, Phone Monterey 4820; Secretary-Treasurer, Dean S. Siefert, 1508 First St., Salinas, Phone Salinas 674.

MONTEREY PENINSULA CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL—Meets at Labor Temple, 315 Alvarado, first and third Tuesdays at 8 p. m. Pres., E. D. McCutcheon; Vice-Pres., Warren Lee; Treas., A. H. Thompson; Sec., Wayne Edwards, 823 Johnson Ave., phone 7622.

MONTEREY COUNTY FEDERATED TEACHERS NO. 457—Meet in Monterey second Wednesday, 5:00 P. M. Fin.-Sec., Wayne Edwards, 823 Johnson Ave., Monterey, Phone 7622.

MUSICIANS Local No. 616 Meets second Monday at 8:00 p.m., Bartenders Hall; Pres., Virgil McAllister; Sec.-Treas., Harry Judson.

MOTOR COACH EMPLOYES, Division 192—President, Harry M. Fox Jr.; Secretary, Herman R. Bach.

PAINTERS, DECORATORS AND PAPER HANGERS 272—Meets second and fourth Tuesdays in Bartenders' Hall at 8:00 p.m. Pres., Elmer Brewer; Rec.-Sec., Irving Ask, Phone 8243; Fin. Sec., J. C. Underwood, Phone 8246; Treas., William Mayer, Phone 7905.

PLASTERERS AND CEMENT FINISHERS NO. 337—Meet first and third Friday, Carpenters' Hall, Monterey, 8:00 P.M. President, Earl Smith, Monterey; Financial Secretary, V. J. Willoughby, 152 Carmel Avenue, Pacific Grove.

PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS NO. 62—Meet in Carpenters' Hall Monterey, second and fourth Friday at 8:00 P. M. President, J. Allen Wilson, 211 Ninth Street, Pacific Grove, Phone 4591; Fin.-Sec., Russell Sweetman, 707 Filmore St., Monterey, Phone 7086.

POST OFFICE CLERKS, Monterey Branch No. 1292 of National Federation of Post Office Clerks (AFL)—Meets first Friday of month. Pres., Boyd Beall; Vice-Pres., E. L. Edwards; Sec.-Treas., Art Hamil.

SEINE AND LINE FISHERMEN'S UNION—Meets monthly on full moon, 2:00 p.m., at Knights of Pythias Hall, Calle Principal; Secretary-Treasurer, John Crivello: Business Agent, Vito Alioto, Office 233 Alvarado St., Phone 3965.

SHEET METAL WORKERS 304—Meet every third Friday, Santa Cruz, Watsonville, Salinas, Monterey. Pres., John Alsop, 308 19th St., Pacific Grove; Fin. Sec., F. F. Knowles, 232 River St., S. C., Ph. 1276J.

GENERAL TEAMSTERS AND AUTO DRIVERS' UNION 287—Meets second Thursday of month at 7:30 p.m., Labor Temple. George W. Jenott, Sec.-Bus. Agt., 72 N. Second St., San Jose, Ballard 6316. For a representative of Monterey County call L. R. Carey, 117 Pajaro St., Salinas Phone 7590.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION LOCAL 573—Meets last Friday of each month in Labor Temple. Lawrence Ollason, President; Walter Cook, Vice President; A. B. Rotter, Secretary, Rt. 1, Monterey.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 543 — C. R. McCloskey, President, Salinas; A. C. Davis, Sec.-Treas., 109 Prospect St., Watsonville. Phone 959-J. Meets last Sunday of the Month, alternating between Watsonville and Salinas.

UNITED SLATE, TILE & COMPOSITION ROOFERS, DAMP & WATERPROOF WORKERS ASSOCIATION 50—Meets 1st Friday in Watsonville Labor Temple, 3rd Friday in Monterey Carpenters' Hall at 8:00 p.m. Pres., Rufus Robinson, 200 Windham St., Santa Cruz; Sec., Frank Walker, 327 Alexander St., Salinas; Phone 9668.

"Unity For Victory"

STANDLEY CHARGE AGAINST USSR WITHOUT FOUNDATION, COMPLETE CHECK-UP SHOWS

New York City.

Admiral William H. Standley, U. S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, was talking through his plumed hat when he said in Moscow that the Soviet government is not telling its people the truth about the war material that has been produced for the Russian front by American workers.

Standley's statement was rebuked by Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles and is exploded by the facts themselves. A recent Federated Press checkup found that not only are the Russian people kept informed of the material from the U. S., but they have repeatedly expressed their appreciation.

PROOF CITED

The record shows that the Soviet Union's largest newspapers—Pravda, Izvestia, Red Star (the army newspaper) and Trud (the labor union organ)—all have carried detailed stories of lend-lease shipments since they began October, 1941. The Soviet radio also has broadcast these figures.

Ralph Parker, famous New York Times correspondent, and Henry C. Cassidy, of the Associated Press, who have been covering the Soviet front since the war started, both gave the lie to Standley. Parker wrote from Moscow and Cassidy from New York, where he recently returned from a rest.

"There can be no doubt," Parker wrote, "that the masses of the Soviet Union are fully aware of the extent of American aid."

'ONLY A FRACTION'

Parker however pointed out that the Soviet government had to be careful not to exaggerate the extent of American shipments because "they are only a small fraction of the total material consumed in the immense struggle on this immense front.

"The government's position is calculated to allay ill feeling," Parker pointed out. "To the Russian soldiers fighting in the snow, to Russian workers enduring great hardships in the remote Urals, 200,000 trucks do not tip the balance against 200,000 Russian lives."

But the Russians are grateful for the assistance they do get, as is shown by a dispatch which Allied Labor News carried October 15, 1942, quoting a Red Star Interview with Ivan Schernik, commander of a group of U. S.-made tanks.

SOLDIER TESTIFIES

"The success of our operations," Schernik said, "is a tribute to the merit, skill and efficiency of American workers."

Obviously if the Soviet government were trying to suppress news of American material, it would not allow the Red Star, which circulates among millions of Red soldiers, to print this interview.

Cassidy, writing a special article on Standley's statement, said that Pravda, the largest newspaper in Russia, on January 23 had printed in full Lease-Lend Administrator Edward R. Stettinius' figures on shipments; that the Soviet press gave wide display to a speech by W. Averell Harriman November 19 telling how food had been taken from Britain to the Soviets; that President Roosevelt's October 12 speech on shipments to the Soviet Union had been given prominence in all Soviet newspapers.

OTHER WITNESSES

President Edward C. Carter of Russia War Relief said that "we have direct evidence that the Soviet government has taken considerable pains to inform Soviet citizens of the arrival of our shipments and of the fact that they came from the hearts of the American people."

Another who condemned Standley was Wendell L. Willkie who visited the Soviet Union last fall. And the loudest cheers for the American ambassador were heard on the shortwave radio—from Berlin.

Big Ward Ads Mispresent Facts, Stated

Washington, D. C.

Speaking of the advertisements Montgomery Ward placed in the press throughout the country contending that maintenance of membership is a form of the closed shop, Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina and a public member of the WLB, said recently:

"Contrary to these advertisements, the maintenance of membership provision is not a closed shop . . . Montgomery Ward is trying to overthrow well-established decisions which constitute one of the two main foundations for the standardization of production for winning the war.

HERE ARE THE FACTS

Five proposals contained in the AFL petition and action taken on them by the board are as follows:

1. Increase the allowance for maladjustments or cost-of-living from 15 per cent to a new realistic figure based upon the actual cost of living to the worker. (This proposal was voted down 8 to 4, public and industry members voting to preserve the present 15 per cent figure at this time.)

2. Permit employers to apply the maladjustment principle thus modified without obtaining approval from the National War Labor Board. (This proposal was dependent on the vote on proposal 1.)

3. Formulate and immediately put into effect a realistic wage policy which recognizes the existence of inequalities, substandard wages and the need to aid in the better prosecution of the war. (A substitute motion was passed unanimously: "That the board proceed with the development of its wage policy which recognizes the existence of inequalities, substandard wages and the need to aid in the better prosecution of the war.")

4. Immediately set a date for a rehearsing and a reconsideration of the Packinghouse and West Coast Airframe cases in the light of the new wage policy herein presented. (As proposal (1) to raise the 15 per cent ceiling was voted down by the board majority, this proposal was changed to read: "That the board immediately set a date for a rehearing and a reconsideration of the Packinghouse and West Coast Airframe Cases." This was voted down, 7 to 5, public member Wayne L. Morse voting the labor members to reconsider these cases.)

5. Guarantee that the right of the National War Labor Board to arrive at its own decisions on wage matters by the democratic process of majority rule shall be preserved without dictation by any person or governmental agency. (It was stated by the board that: "It is understood by the War Labor Board, as well as by the director of stabilization, that the board is to make its own decisions which come before it on its own judgment.")

Democrats Better Quit Betraying Labor, Says Tobin, Or They'll Be In Doghouse at the Next Election

Mr. Daniel J. Tobin, Teamster generalissimo, has done a good job in the April issue of "The International Teamster" in reminding the Democratic Party of some painful facts. One of the facts is that, after Labor has put in a colossal amount of time, energy and money to keep Democrats in office, a lot of those same Democrats are now busy as beavers gnawing the props out from under unionism. Says Mr. Tobin quite appropriately:

"Even if many of the Southern Democrats who are crucifying labor have no use for organized labor, they should remember that their power and influence is due to the fact that their party is in control and that they were placed in control by the labor vote of the nation." And again:

"Labor helped to elect Woodrow Wilson in 1912 and 1916, and then we saw the Democratic Party destroyed . . . History has a habit of repeating itslef, and unless the Democrats in power stick to their guns and stop crucifying the trade union movement of the United States in all of its divisions and branches, they will find themselves as they did before, from March, 1921, until March, 1933, a crawling, impotent majority.

"One final word to the majority party in congress. Don't continue convincing yourselves that it is stylish now to attack organized labor. If you do (and you are acting that way at present), you will find yourselves on the outside looking in . . . And when you are outside looking in you won't have much to say about political jobs for your friends.

"In addition to this, be careful that by your contemplated legislation which you may think of enacting, you do not drive labor too far. Labor is human, and the more you persecute labor the more labor will retaliate and resent your action. Perhaps by such action you will render labor uncontrollable and destroy the work and teachings and the advice that many of us have been giving to the multitudes for the past thirty years. . . .

"Many labor leaders who supported the Democratic party in 1932, 1936 and 1940 feel now that they are being betrayed, 'sold down the river', by the party they helped put in power. They feel this is being done under the cry of 'We're in war'.

"In reality, these men of labor believe the flag, the war excuse, is only a smoke screen to hide the crimes of the profiteers, the chaps who oppose the salary limit of $25,000 a year after taxes are paid.

"Those labor men now say: 'Well, if we are going to be crucified, let us be crucified by those who don't claim to be our friends.'"

CO-OP BUYS BIG LUMBER MILL IN OREGON; MOST OF SUPPLY TO U.S.

Kansas City, Missouri.

A lumber mill in the heart of the red and yellow fir country, 60 miles west of Eugene, Oregon, and 40 miles inland from the Pacific Ocean, has just been purchased by Consumers Cooperative Association, with headquarters here, it is announced by Howard A. Cowden, president. It is the second lumber mill for the wholesale, the first one having been purchased last fall at Hill City, South Dakota.

Located near Swisshome, at the summit of the Coast Range mountains, the mill will turn out around 14,000,000 feet of lumber a year. It was purchased from Roy Swenson, who built it in 1934. It is 175 miles from Portland on a branch of the Southern Pacific railroad.

Some 80,000,000 feet of timber was purchased from Swenson at the same time, or enough to keep the mill running at capacity for five or six years. The Siuslaw national forest adjoints the timber purchased by the cooperative. Some 30 men are employed the year around.

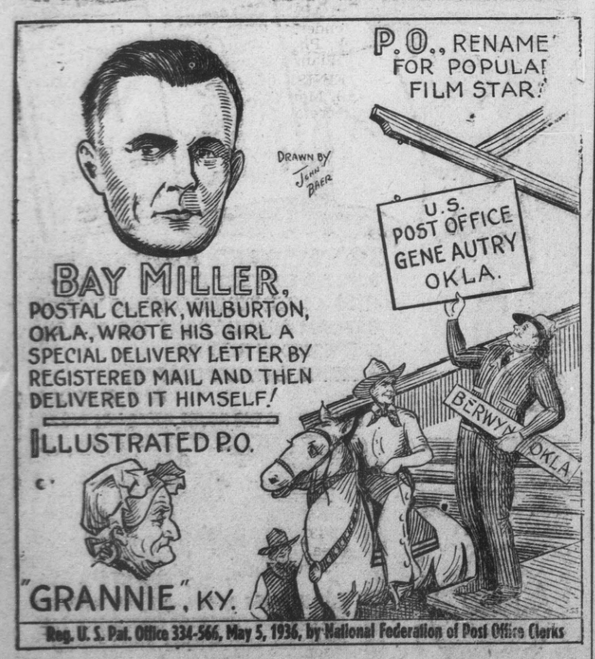
About 80 per cent of the mill's output is going to the federal government. Until the war ends, or until government demand for lumber declines, only 20 per cent of the output will be left for cooperative yards that are members or patrons of the wholesale. There are between 250 and 300 such lumber co-ops in the 9-state area served by CCA.

Good to Remember

Just a reminder to those who are taken in by the old Hitler gag of red baiting—

Thomas Jefferson, whose 200th anniversary is being celebrated by all patriotic Americans in April, was called an atheistic, anarchistic enemy of the republic by most of the newspapers of his day.

POSTAL ODDITIES BY TRAPP



On November 16th an estimated 35,227 persons, 35,000 visitors and 227 residents, participated in the festivities which accompanied the rechristening of the town of Berwyn, Okla. The new and official name —Gene Autry—is the result of the singing film cowboy's purchase of a 1,360-acre ranch at the west edge of the town.

OVERTIME for MERCY . . . . . by Jan

NEEDED: $125,000,000 FOR RED CROSS SERVICES TO:

...THE MEN IN UNIFORM AND THEIR FAMILIES

...WAR VICTIMS

...PRISONERS OF WAR

...MERCHANT SEAMEN

...DISASTER VICTIMS



TEARS WON'T HELP - DOLLARS WILL!
HUNDREDS OF LABOR LEADERS URGE SUPPORT; C.I.O. and A.F.L. WAR RELIEF COMMITTEES HAVE PLEDGED THEIR COOPERATION..
GIVE AS MANY HOURS PAY AS YOU CAN!

SUPPORT THE 1943 RED CROSS WAR FUND

RICKENBACKER, ADVOCATING FROZEN PAY FOR WORKERS, CLEANS UP ON WAR PROFIT

New York City.

Eddie Rickenbacker, who says America should forget the money angle — meaning American workers should work for sweatshop wages — coined a nice piece of change during 1942.

The information about Eddie's profits — a subject which the new cutie of the National Association of Manufacturers never mentions in all his phoney speeches—was buried on Page 18 of the New York Herald-Tribune.

The story is worth quoting in full:

"Eastern Air Lines, Inc., reports for 1942 net income of $1,885,503 after all charges including provision of $3,777,905 for Federal income and excess profits taxes. Net income for the year is equivalent to $3.28 a share and compares with net income of $1,609,706, or $2.81 a share, for 1941, when taxes amounted to $901,000.

"Total revenues for 1942 were $16,339,250, against $13,977,124 in 1941, an increase of $2,362,126, or 16.9 per cent."

Rickenbacker, who, don't forget, would have everybody forget the "money angle," then is quoted in his report as saying it is the opinion of the management, of which he is president and general manager, "that an interpretation based upon the intent of the law would exempt Eastern Air Lines, Inc., from excess profits tax in 1942."

RICK ON THE "MONEY ANGLE"

Rickenbacker made a speech on the money angle in Indianapolis on March 11, to the National Foundation for Education in American Citizenship. Read what he said, and compare his words with the financial report of his company.

"Perhaps, now," he said, (N. Y. Sun, March 12,) "you understand better why I am urging you to eliminate the incompetents in Government, the racketeers in labor, the patrioteers in industry — all those whose objective is greedy, grasping, selfish personal gain."

If you want additional testimony about Rickenbacker's hatred for labor, read what he told a PM reporter. (PM, March 9):

"I am not afraid of anybody in the world," he said. "PM can't smear me and I have no fear of what it says about me and labor.

"Sure, I busted a wildcat union in my own company, but it deserved to be broken up. I was better than it was and I proved it by whipping it."

AFL Fishermen Making Record Catch for War

Boston, Massachusetts.

Struggling hard to fill the nation's larder, the depleted fishing fleet of this area, manned by members of the AFL Atlantic Fishermen's Union, is hoisting the year's records for catches higher every day, reports the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries in Washington.

Twice within a week, the record at the fish pier here has been broken. Most recent title-holders are the fishermen in the crew of the trawler, William J. O'Brien.

Fishermen now are taking "greater risks than ever before," said the Fisheries Office in Washington. "The men frequently work in icy and sometimes stormy weather and often don't get out of their clothes and into bunks for from 24 to 36 hours at a stretch. To this has been added the constant menace of submarines.

"What is happening in Boston and Gloucester is also true of many other fishing centers . . . The work is tough and dangerous."

Legislation to Kill Home Loan Setup Is Supported by Sharks

Washington, D. C.

John H. Fahey, Federal Home Loan Bank Commissioner, charged at a congressional hearing that pending legislation for the forced liquidation of the HOLC was inspired by private lending agencies and would cost taxpayers "at least 400 million dollars."

Under the proposed legislation the HOLC would be compelled to sell its best home loans to private lending agencies and get stuck with the bad ones.

These agencies would then be able to raise interest charges to thousands of workers' families who were enabled to save their homes in the depths of the depression through HOLC loans.

The legislative "grab," which was inserted as an amendment to the Independent Offices Appropriations Bill in the House of Representatives, came a cropper through labor's and Commissioner Fahey's joint opposition and it is believed the Senate will refuse to approve it.

'Socialism' of Bank Deposit Insurance Good Business, Said

Washington, D. C.

The myth that Uncle Sam can't run any business has received a number of severe jolts in recent years. One of the hardest jolts of all has just come from Leo T. Crowley, head of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Ten years ago, every bank in the country was closed. Now Mr. Crowley reports to the President that the banks have achieved "the strongest asset position of record."

Then he reviews the story of deposit insurance. Ten years ago, practically any banker, and certainly any newspaper editor, would have told you that deposit insurance was a "cockeyed idea."

Well, "the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof." Since 1933, Mr. Crowley says, 390 insured banks have closed, but 1,250,000 depositors—that is, 99.8 per cent of the total—**didn't lose a cent**—thanks to bank deposit insurance.

By way of contrast, he points out that during the 10 years **preceding the "New Deal," 13,500** banks closed their doors and depositors lost about $2,000,000,000 and stockholders substantially the same sum, **or four billions, all told, as against nothing during the last 10 years.** All of which would seem to indicate that Uncle Sam is a mighty good business man.

Labor Support Urged to Pass Poll-Tax Bill

Washington, D. C.

At this writing, less than 100 members of the House of Representatives have signed House Discharge Petition No. 3, to bring H. R. 7, the Anti-Poll Tax Bill of 1943 to the floor for a vote.

That means over 100 more to go. AND THAT INCLUDES YOUR CONGRESSMAN.

Many congressmen have written to their constituents that they "will support" anti-poll tax legislation. But the majority of these congressmen haven't done the first necessary thing to support it—signing of the discharge petition.

PUT THEM ON THE SPOT!

Don't let such a communication from your congressman beguile you. Write back and ask him whether he has actually signed the discharge petition. If he hasn't, his letter is a lot of bunk. Don't stop your pressure until you have his assurance that he has actually signed the petition. And then don't let up on him either. His signature has to stay on, and there are and will be powerful influences at work in Washington trying to persuade him to take it off.

WATCH THE BACKSLIDERS!

That's what happened last year. As the total reached close to the necessary 218, individuals away down the list would go up and scratch their names off, so that about three congressmen had to be persuaded to sign in order to add one signature to the total number.

The poll tax is not going to be repealed by congressmen who want to repeal it. The balance of power is going to be held by representatives who don't care about it, but whose constituents can make them care. That probably means your congressman.

That's why the pressure from home has got to get under way quick, and heavy, and unrelenting.

Big Willow Run Plant Held Up By Bad Housing

New York City.

The odor arising from the mess at Henry Ford's Willow Run bomber plant is so bad that it is even acknowledged in the Wall Street, the nation's most powerful financial newspaper.

Writing a special story from Detroit, a Wall Street Journal correspondent says: "The world's largest factory will be the country's biggest armament flop unless ways are found to attract tens of thousands of workers to the Ford Willow Run bomber plants."

WORKERS WON'T GO THERE

The report confirms criticisms which labor officials made weeks ago when they pointed out that the lack of housing, medical, community and other facilities at Willow Run made it impossible to recruit a working force for the giant plant.

"Willow Run," the Journal says, "is 35 miles from downtown Detroit. Those who work at Willow Run and live in the motor capital have a round trip of 40 to 70 miles a day. . . . Ppsilanti, the nearest town, is five miles, but rooms are crowded and they rent at premium prices. The same is true of Ann Arbor, 15 miles away. . . .

"Housing isn't the only consideration for a man and wife who take jobs at Willow Run—or for the single girl, either. Even the homes being built here are not particularly attractive. The workers want stores where they can shop, dance halls, beer gardens and movies in which they can relax."

THE GOLDEN RULE ALL OVER WORLD

From the Bible of the Hindu: "The true rule is to guard and do by the things of others as you do by your own."

From the Bible of the Buddhist: "One should seek for others the happiness one desires for oneself."

From the Bible of the Zoroastrian: "Do as you would be done by."

From the Bible of the Confucian: "What you do not wish done to yourself, do not to others."

From the Bible of the Mohammedan: "Let none of you treat your brother in a way he himself would dislike to be treated."

From the Bible of the Hebrew: "Whatsoever you do not wish your neighbor to do to you, do not unto him."

From the Bible of the Christian. "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them."

Difference or Distinction

"The French are either pro-British or anti-British. The pro-British say: 'I hope the British win the war.' The anti-British say: 'I hope the damn British win the war'."—PIERRE DE LANUX, former director Paris office of the League of Nations.

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CALIFORNIA STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR—Vice-President for San Mateo, Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties—Thomas A. Small, San Mateo, California, Phone San Mateo 3-8789.

BAKERS 24—Meets every third Saturday of month at 7:00 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St. Sec., Louie Grasso, 18 Villa St., Salinas; Pres., Ed Holstein; Bus. Agt., Fred L. Goudy, Labor Temple, San Jose, phone Ballard 6341.

JOURNEYMEN BARBERS 827—Meets every third Monday of month at 8:00 p.m., at 227 Monterey Ave.; Pres., Nate Freeman; Sec., W. G. Kenyon.

BARTENDERS UNION LOCAL No. 545: Meets first and third Monday of month, 2:00 p.m., Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro Street; W. E. Biggerstaff, Sec., 425 N. Main St., Phone 6293. Charles Tindle, Pres., 215 Quilla St., Phone 5811. W. Y. Raymond, Bus. Agent, 117 Pajaro St., Phone 6734.

BUTCHERS UNION 506 (Salinas Branch)—President, V. L. Poe; Financial Secretary, A. Peterson; Recording Secretary, Don Halverson. (Earl Moorhead, San Jose, Executive Secretary, Phone Col. 2132).

CARPENTERS 925—Meets every Monday night at 7:30, Carpenters' Hall, North Main St. Pres., Guy Paulson; Vice Pres., Amos Schofield; Sec., H. L. Taft, 243 Clay St., Phone 4246; Treas., R. L. Thurman, 5 Port Ave.; Rec. Sec., Roy Hossack, 1244 Del Monte Ave.; Bus. Agt., George R. Harter, 1060 E. Market St., Phone 5335. Office, 422 No. Main St., Phone 5721.

CARPENTERS AUXILIARY 373—Business meetings second Wednesday each month at Carpenters Hall; social meetings, fourth Wednesdays. Pres., Mrs. Marie Brayton; Sec., Mrs. Blanche Van Emmon; Treas., Mrs. Helen Keiser.

CULINARY WORKERS ALLIANCE 467—Meets second and fourth Thursday, 2:30 p.m., at Labor Temple. Pres., Jessie King; Bus. Mgr., Helen Norman, office at Labor Temple; Office Sec., Bertha Boles.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, Local Union 243—Meets the first Friday in each Month at the Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St. at 8:00 p.m. C. B. Phillips, Business Manager, Phone 3361, 25 Harvest St. L. E. Tole Pres.

FIVE COUNTIES LABOR LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE—Meets first Sunday each month at place announced. Pres., F. J. Carlisle; Vice.-Pres., Wayne Edwards; Rec. Sec., Sibyl Schneller; Sec.-Treas., Roy Hossack, Route 2, Box 144, Salinas. Phone Salinas 5460.

HOD CARRIERS AND LABORERS UNION 272—Meets second and fourth Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at Forresters Hall, 373 Main street. R. Fenchel, Pres., 17 Railroad Ave.; J. F. Mattos, Sec., 523 Archer St.; J. B. McGinley, Bus. Agt., office at rear of Labor Temple; Donna Spicer, Office Secretary.

LATHERS UNION NO. 463—Meets in Salinas Labor Temple second and fourth Fridays, 8 p.m. President, Roy R. Benge, Hillby St., Monterey, Phone Monterey 4820; Sec.-Treas, Dean S. Seefeldt, 526 Park St., Salinas, Phone 9223.

LINOLEUM, CARPET AND SOFT TILE WORKERS UNION, of Painters Union 1104—Meets at Labor Temple, first and third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; Harry Nash, Chairman.

MONTEREY COUNTY CENTRAL LABOR UNION: Meets every Friday evening at 8:00 p.m. at Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St.; W. G. Kenyon, Sec.-Treas., 137 Clay St.; D. D. McAnaney, Pres.

OPERATING ENGINEERS NO. 165—Meets first Thursday at Labor Temple, 462-A Main Street, Harry Vosburgh, secretary. 240 E. San Luis Street, Salinas.

OPERATIVE PLASTERERS AND CEMENT FINISHERS OF SALINAS AND MONTEREY COUNTY, LOCAL UNION No. 763: Meets second and fourth Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m., at Rodeo Cafe; Fred Randon, Secretary, 31 Buena Vista, Salinas, Phone 1423; President, Don Frick.

PAINTERS, DECORATORS AND PAPERHANGERS UNION, LOCAL No. 1104; Meets first and third Tuesday of month at 7:30 p. m. Salinas Labor Temple, 117 Pajaro St.; Pres., C. W. Rickman; Rec. and Fin. Sec., D. H. Hartman, 1333 First Ave., Salinas; office at Labor Temple. Phone Salinas 8783.

PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS' UNION Local 503: Meets second Wednesday of each month, 8:00 p.m., Salinas Labor Temple. Pres., Al Everly; Rec. Sec., Phil Prater; Fin. Sec. and Bus. Agt., Louis Jenkins, office at Labor Temple. (Exec. Bd., meets each Tuesday night at Labor Temple.)

POSTAL CARRIERS UNION, LOCAL No. 1046: Meets every third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 30 Towt St., Salinas; E. L. Sieber, Sec., Phone 2944R, P. O. Box 25; Lester Pierce, Pres., Salinas.

PRINTING PRESSMEN & ASSISTANTS' UNION NO. 328 OF WATSONVILLE AND SALINAS—Meets last Tuesday of each month, alternating between Salinas and Watsonville. President, Roland W. Scheffler, Toro and Miami Sts., Salinas; Sec., Milo Martella, 225 Monterey St., Salinas.

SHEET METAL WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 304—President, John Alsop, Pacific Grove, Phone 7825; Business Agent, A. N. Endell, 54 Villa St., Salinas, Phone 7355.

STATE, COUNTY and MUNICIPAL EMPLOYES — Meets on call at Labor Temple; H. E. Lyons, pres., 15 West St.; H. V. Rook, 1413 Wiren St., secretary.

SUGAR REFINERY WORKERS UNION NO. 20616—President, Les Hutchings; Secty., E. M. Jones, 21-A Homestead, Salinas. Meets in Forresters Hall, Salinas, 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:30 P. M.

GENERAL TEAMSTERS AND AUTO TRUCK DRIVERS' UNION, LOCAL NO. 287—Meets first Wednesday in Oct., Jan., April, July at Labor Temple; L. R. (Red) Carey, secretary, 117 Pajaro street, Salinas, Phone 7590.

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THEATRICAL STAGE EMPLOYES AND MOTION PICTURE OPERATORS, LOCAL 611—Meets first Tuesday every other month 10 a. m. in Watsonville Labor Temple; Pres., Art Reina, 13 Kentucky St., Salinas; Bus. Agent, James Wilson, 80 Payton St., Santa Cruz, Phone 2737-R; Rec. Sec., Chas. Covey, 364 Walnut Ave., Santa Cruz.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION No. 543 — C. R. McCloskey, President, Salinas; A. C. Davis, Sec.-Treas., 109 Prospect St., Watsonville. Phone 959-J. Meets last Sunday of the Month, alternating between Watsonville and Salinas.

UNITED SLATE, TILE & COMPOSITION ROOFERS, DAMP & WATERPROOF WORKERS ASSOCIATION 50—Meets 1st Friday in Watsonville Labor Temple, 3rd Friday in Monterey Carpenters' Hall at 8:00 p.m. Pres., Rufus Robinson, 200 Windham St., Santa Cruz; Sec., Frank Walker, 327 Alexander St., Salinas; Phone 9668.

★ BUY MORE WAR BONDS AND STAMPS ★

One-Fourth Of Swedish People In Labor Union

Every fourth Swede now belongs to the Swedish Labor Federation, according to membership figures at the beginning of 1943, just announced. Membership in the federation increased by 32,000 during 1942, to a total of 1,023,139. The Stockholm labor newspaper Aftontidningen says that based on Sweden's approximate population of 6,500,000 the Swedish Labor Federation is now relatively the largest in the world.

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Your Congressman

(Continued from Page 1)

ing factors. The Los Angeles area companies can find no facts to support the conclusion that, had our absentee rate been lower than it was, we would have built appreciably more airplanes than we did in 1942".

COOPERATION NEEDED

5) Increased production is the big goal for which we all are striving. To increase production through the reduction of absenteeism is important. In the attack on this particular phase of the production program, it is well to remember the extremely complex nature of the problem and to remember that voluntary cooperation upon the part of all elements concerned is still the best way—the American Way. Management, Labor, and Governmental representatives were practically unanimous in stating that the organization best fitted to deal with absenteeism, its cause and cure is the Labor-Management war production drive committees, initiated in 1942 by Mr. Donald Nelson. Such committees have already accomplished tremendous results in reducing absenteeism throughout the country, and it is to be hoped that this type of approach will continue to be followed.

* * *

Several weeks ago it was stated that there would be "guest Columnists" taking over this column from time to time. Next week your representative starts on a trip for the west coast with a House sub-committee to investigate emergency housing projects. The first column in his absence will be written by another "freshman" Congressman, although an extremely well known one, the capable Will Rogers, Jr.

* * *

Until next week.

Half Million In State Producing Transport Stuff

San Francisco, California.

Approximately half a million wage earners were employed in California plants producing transportation equipment in February, Paul Scharrenberg, director of industrial relations, announces on the basis of a report received from John F. Dalton, chief of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement.

This figure, which is about 20 times the number at work in February, 1939, covers factory workers in aircraft, shipbuilding, automobile and miscellaneous transportation equipment industries. Adding office, clerical, executive, technical and professional employes to the wage earner figure brings the total close to the 600,000 mark.

Undeground Italian Forces Encouraging Civil Disobedience

Washington, D. C.

A new phase of the civil disobedience campaign against Mussolini's fascist regime is about to begin in Italy, according to information just received via London, through the OWI, by Vanni B. Montana, secretary of the Italian Socialist Federation in America. The campaign was initiated last fall inside Italy by the underground Italian Socialist Party and associated labor groups whose program is not only to overthrow Fascism, but also to save Italy from passing from the present dictatorship to another.

The civil disobedience move against Mussolini's regime will be launched under the new slogan: "The War Is Lost, But Italy Can Still Save Itself."

—Buy U. S. War Bonds!—

Tobin Warning Democrats on Labor-Baiting

Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Roosevelt administration is in danger of losing the labor vote because southern Democrats are "crucifying" labor unions in this country. President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) warned in the April issue of The International Teamster.

Tobin's remarks are of much significance not only because he is chief of the AFL's largest union and sixth vice president of the AFL, but because he was chairman of the labor division of the Democratic National Committee in 1932, 1936 and 1940 and is credited with much of the success of the Roosevelt ticket.

MUST BE FAIR

"History has a habit of repeating itself," Tobin said, "and unless the Democrats in power stick to their guns and stop crucifying the trade union movement of the nation in all of its divisions and branches, they will find themselves as they did before, from March 21 until March, 1933, a crawling, impotent minority.

"And might we say to the Republicans that unless they are governed by the progressive expressions and actions of men like Dewey (Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York) and perhaps Bricker (Gov. John W. Bricker of Ohio), they never will get back control of the political machinery of the nation."

NEW YORK BOARD SAYS UNION MAN NOT PROPER FOR EDUCATION POST

New York City.

Mayor La Guardia ordered a complete investigation of the Board of Education's refusal to appoint Mark Starr, the only candidate to qualify, to the job of adult education director.

Starr is education director of the International Ladies Garment Workers, AFL, although he is not a member of that union. He belongs to the American Federation of Teachers, AFL, with which many of the country's leading educators are affiliated.

Starr was the only one of 100 applicants for the appointment to pass a series of oral and written examinations and interviews which lasted a year.

The mayor told Commissioner of Investigation Herlands to find out why the board, by a 4-to-2 vote, turned down the recommendation of Starr by its own experts—the Board of Superintendents and the Board of Examiners.

La Guardia acted after receiving a protest from David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, telegraphed Ellsworth Buck, Board of Education president, calling the board's reasons for turning down Starr "contrary to the principles of democracy and our American way of life." He said:

"I urge that fitness, ability, qualifications and character be considered as determining factors in the selection."

Wendell Willkie said:

"If Mr. Starr was rejected solely because he was employed by a union and believed in its principles, a basic American right has been violated. If there was ever a time when such prejudices should not be prevalent in American life it is now when we are fighting for freedom."

Despite general condemnation of the board's action, Buck made clear that he was standing pat on his position that Starr is unfitted for the post because he is a "labor protagonist."

Encouragement Given Hapsburg Outfit Is Protested by Unions

New York City.

The Hungarian-Austrian Trade Union Committee for Victory protested to the War and State Departments against a meeting of the Free Austrian movement which it said was called to launch a campaign for resoration of the Hapsburg dynasty in central Europe.

"The majority of workers in basic U. S. war industry," the committee said, "came or are descendants of people who came to America to escape Hapsburg tyranny. The recognition given by our War Department to Otto of Hapsburg is of grave concern to them and all liberty loving unionists. It casts a shadow on the war aims of the United Nations and the shape of the peace to come."

Represented on the committee are representatives of a number of unions who have Hungarian or Austrian members.

Logic is the armory of reason.—FULLER.

Stark Continues Report on Sheet Metal Worker Meet, President Byron's Address

Robert J. Byron, our International President, addressed the Convention as follows:

"To begin with I want to thank the members of the State Council for the cooperation they have given to us for the past two or three years.

Today we are confronted with some very serious problems. One in particular is that prior to the executive order or the request from the President of the United States that wages must be established. The Stabilization agreement was drawn up to everyone's surprise. We signed an agreement and by so doing we were complimented by the President of the United States and he used that as a plan to prevent inflation. Members of the committee thought we had given too much away. I took an active part in negotiating that agreement. We set aside double time, and a lot of other things because of the conditions we are involved in at the present time.

Then we followed through and wages were stabilized as of July 1st. Since that time, a great deal of requests have been coming in from various parts of the country for increase in wages. We have a Wage Adjustment Board, of which I am a member. We have on the Board, President Bates of the Bricklayers, President of the Building Trades; a Colonel representing the Army, and a Lieutenant representing the Navy, and Mr. McNiel; we also have Dan Tracy, who was the former president. When requests come in from different organizations, we get the exact record of the case involved. We have quite a number on file now and please be patient. There are now 580 cases before this Board. We go into detail very thoroughly and do not wish to send anything to the War Labor Board. When a vote is taken on the Stabilization Committee, it is a unanimous vote, or we stay until we convince everyone, and the vote is unanimous.

On the War Labor Board they have a lot of professors and they are trying to disrupt the things we have tried to accomplish. These professors that we have around the city of Washington are continually trying to disrupt various articles and they are at all times trying to inject themselves into the Wage Adjustment Board. They are trying to get the CIO into this Board. They have tried along with the Associated General Contractors, and I contend that under no circumstances could they change the labor board and we, as representatives, should resign immediately.

The one thing that I might say that we are mostly interested in and the delegates of this Convention are interested in, is the Shipyard Stabilization Agreement. The National Labor Relations Board has opposed anything connected with the A. F. of L. They are CIO-minded and are doing anything they can to disrupt the Stabilization Agreement.

Organizer Cook is taking quite an active part relative to the shipyard workers in this district. He was so much in demand that the President of the Metal Trades Department, Brother Frey, suggested that I go to Portland to assist him.

We have here a shipyard that has an agreement and the agreement is working in complete harmony with the employers; records were established in 1942 that none dreamed would be made in the shipbuilding industry. We were very proud of the accomplishment, but it seems that though—these "professors" and other people are attempting to destroy. We have a job to do and we are going to do that job. We are going to continue to do that job, providing that we are left alone. You see that we have various people sticking their chins out finding fault with men employed in industrial plants, saying that they are "laying down on the job." If we go out and try to answer all these questions and statements made by Rickenbacker and the like, it would be silly and useless.

However, our membership is not going to take this fight laying down. The first attempt is being made now in the Portland yard at the Kaiser Company. Dealings have been going on up there to our detriment. Some people are clamoring to break up an agreement at any time, to add to the confusion of the men in the shipyards. If this group that goes to make up the National Labor Relations Board is allowed to continue this, there are eighteen (18) other yards they have in mind to extend it to. After Frey returned, he called a meeting of all presidents who are interested in the Building Trades. We heard his report and also that report of Mr. McDonald of the Boilermakers. We felt that the very branches of government should insist that the agreement was fulfilled to the letter.

President Green was instructed that a meeting was held in Washington two days before I left Washington. There were no words minced insofar as what we intended to do. We requested that because everything else had been done by labor, we requested one solid plan, that, if this National Labor Relations Board shall be allowed to continue the tactics used, we as representatives of various organizations, are going to notify the Government that we will withdraw the NO-STRIKE clause from that agreement. We will not take this laying down. If the C.I.O. even attempts to go in there, there will be much resentment.

Those things cannot happen while we are at war. We will make those ships, providing we are let alone. You men are directly interested as to what the outcome might be. Through President Green, we have contacted the President of the United States. All we ask is that an executive order be issued by the President to the effect that all existing agreements that are now in effect between employers and labor organizations, be continued on for the duration without interference from any group. If he would grant us that, and issue that order, the chaotic conditions will be eliminated.

It is not a threat on our part when we make that statement about the NO-STRIKE clause, unless we get some protection. I just received a notice this morning that there is a meeting called on the 15th of March in the Department of Labor relative to the agreement.

You can rest assured that the interest of your organization will be protected. We have made a record in 1942, and, if we are let alone, that record can be exceeded in 1943.

In the state of Texas, there are three bills introduced and, if passed, every member of every organization will have to turn in his card. The Hot Cargo Bill was only a piker compared to the one introduced in Texas. Washington is continually confronted with bills being presented to Congress for the abolishing of the labor organizations. In the meantime, we should try to stop taking action in various localities to give them anything to talk about. Most people do not know the difference between the CIO and the AFL, and when the CIO stopped work, it was just labor that was put at fault and no distinction was made that it was the CIO.

The War Labor Board sees that there are men representing the C.I.O. They go to various localities and get the backing of the N.L.R.B. There are men advocating the C.I.O.; doesn't cost a thing to join, six months dues free, and a promise of an increase in wages. They are seriously injuring the Trade Union movement. We know that you do not want to clutter up the organizations with a lot of half-baked journeymen, but we may have to do it so that they will have some place to go when the building program is completed. There is only one place for these men to go—shipyards. Try and give them all the benefit of the doubt. If you insist that they transfer into the organization, you are going to break up some eastern organizations. Try to be lenient. Request has been made not to put too much stress on that part of the constitution stating that Transfer Cards must be taken. You men will find, and especially the Business Agents, that most of the trouble we are getting is coming in, not from the old-time members but from these "johnny-come-latelys."

Get your membership to attend meetings. Buy bonds. You do not realize the hardships we had to go through to get where we now are. We are not going to have the heartaches that some organizations are going to have; we have not reached out and taken in every Tom, Dick and Harry. The business agent's job for a while was easy because employers were hollering for men, but the business agent's job from now on will not be very easy. We wish that you men would bear that in mind. If anything serious happens in our outcome of the Portland situation, I will say that we will not let our fellows take it laying down.

Today, we have quite a number of men in the east, unemployed. Some, however, will be coming out here. I advised the young fellows to leave their families behind. I suggested that they did not even write to their sweethearts; there are plenty of sweethearts out here. I hope that when these fellows do come out, you will show them every courtesy.

We are having a lot of trouble with the Steamfitter claiming everything with a hole in it, and we are still going to do our work insofar as coppersmithing is concerned. The coppersmith is waking up and they are now doing something for themselves, and those things are being taken care of by your International.

I am glad to be out here to attend this State District Council I am more than pleased to renew my acquaintances, and I want to thank you for this opportunity."

—By ROBERT J. BYRON.

HOW NUTRITION COMMITTEE FOR UNION CAN HELP STEP PRODUCTION

Washington, D. C.

How an industrial nutrition committee in a labor union within a plant can be of real service is shown in a report made by Dr. Mark Graubard, industrial education adviser, Nutrition in Industry, Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, Nutrition Division, who recently returned from a New England field trip in which he addressed a number of labor union meetings.

Workers in a New England shipyard complained when vending machines for soft drinks were removed. The nutrition committee brought before the workers a report showing that it was the feeding conditions in the plant that justified the complaint rather than the lack of the vending machines.

The shipyard does not provide a cafeteria, but a concessionaire provides packed lunches. Improvements recommended by the Nutrition Division were suggested to the concessionaire by the local nutrition committee.

As a result of discussions, the concessionaire has already agreed that the packed lunches will now include two nutritious sandwiches, cole slaw, milk and dessert, including fresh fruit whenever it is available.

Workers Engaged In Metal, Lumber Industries Now 'Frozen' in West

San Francisco, California.

To insure the flow of vitally needed war metals and lumber from producing areas in the West, the War Manpower Commission recently announced new procedures and regulations for compliance with its Non-Ferrous Metals and Lumber Employment Stabilization Plan.

The three major points of the new program provide for rigid enforcement of the Stabilization Plan at mines, mills, smelters, logging camps and lumber mills; measures to prevent the hiring of essential men in the two industries in other areas, as well as to provide for the return of those who have left the affected industries, and selective service action to assure deferment of these workers.

The new procedures and regulations were worked out and approved by War Manpower Committees, composed of representatives of labor, management and the War Manpower Commission.

"America cannot win if important war jobs are filled one day and unfilled the next," William K. Hopkins, regional War Manpower director, said in explaining the stabilization plan. "It takes millions of feet of lumber and millions of tons of metal to keep our Army and Navy on the battle lines and they will need still more to smash their way to victory.

"The men in these two vital industries are the only ones who can get this material to our fighting forces. Time lost by these workers looking elsewhere for jobs means lives lost on our far-flung battle fronts. The Stabilization Plan emphasizes that the metal and lumber worker's part in the war is right here on the job he knows best."

To insure the necessary metals and lumber for the guns, tanks, planes and ships, the new procedures and regulations tighten the controls to prevent the hiring of workers away from the two industries and to prevent the movement of workers from job to job. At the same time provision is made to safeguard the rights of workers and employers. Complete appeals machinery is set up.

Immediate action will be taken to return workers who have been drawn away by other war industries. Employers who have hired workers since September 7, 1942, without certificates of separation will be required to release these workers.

Machinists in Referendum on 'Pulling Out'

The 619,000 members of the International Association of Machinists are voting this month on whether or not they will withdraw from the AFL.

"The fight we've had with the Building Trades," said Secretary-Treasurer E. C. Davison, "goes back 14 years."

Voting began April 1 to extend through the month. Circulars dated February 26 were sent to the lodges with instructions to have them read at each meeting during March and April to acquaint members with the executive board's action in ordering the referendum.

Davison, who supports the referendum but personally opposes withdrawal from the AFL, said that "there isn't a chance that if the IAM does withdraw it will go into the CIO."

Careful Economic Planning Need of Nation to Handle Post-War Situation, Belief

By SCOTT NEARING

American people have been told on many occasions that the workings of free enterprise economy are fearful and wonderful. The laws behind these workings are more or less sacred. Any governmental interference with the operation of the economy must therefore result in disaster.

Accordingly the economic apparatus bumped along its profit-yielding way, guided by private businessmen who followed its ups and downs with the same complex of hopes and fears that the farmer bestows on the weather.

Results of this laissez-faire policy were generally felt after 1929. They show up, as well as anywhere, in the important and basic steel industry. Steel ingots and castings produced in the U. S. amounted to 52 million tons in 1928. Thereafter the figures ran:

1929	56 million
1930	41 million
1931	26 million
1932	14 million
1933	23 million
1934	26 million
1935	34 million
1936	48 million
1937	51 million
1938	28 million
1939	47 million
1940	60 million

BACK TO WHERE IT STARTED

Through these 13 years the steel industry has run a full cycle. Production in 1940 was slightly higher than in 1929. Meanwhile, in 1938 production was half the 1929 figure and in 1932 it was a quarter of 1929.

Such mad production variations occurred in other basic industries and in the economy as a whole. They not only checked industrial development and turned profits into losses, but they led to unemployment, insecurity and uncertainty that disrupted families, blighted careers and led to widespread hardships and misery.

The record would be a discouraging one if it stood alone. But there are other records, of quite a different character. Take those of the Soviet Union as an example —their production of steel ingots and castings in millions of tons.

1929	5 million
1930	5 million
1931	6 million
1932	6 million
1933	7 million
1934	9 million
1935	13 million
1936	16 million
1937	18 million
1938	18 million

RESULT OF PROPER PLANNING

The quantity of production was less than that of the U. S., since Russia began its industrialization much later than this country. But the rate of production is stabilized —increasing steadily and regularly according to a general economic plan. In 1938 production was more than treble 1929.

Since 1940 the U. S. has faced a war emergency. What has happened to the steel industry? Is it left to the tender mercies of private enterprise and followed by the same fears and hopes with which farmers follow the weather? Not for a moment. It is included in a general economic plan, drawn up by a Government department. Here, for example, is the WPB announcement of steel allotments for the second quarter of 1943. The figures are a military secret and therefore cannot be given, but they are worked out as a housewife writes her grocery list; so much money available, so many things needed, cash with order. So much steel for shipbuilding, so much for planes, so much for railroads and so on through the list.

General economic planning has worked satisfactorily in the Soviet Union. It is adopted as a matter of course in a war emergency. Why not extend the same principle to the peace emergency that will follow the ending of hostilities?

Colorado Legislature Joins Labor-Baiting Crusade, Passes Law To Cripple Movement

Denver, Colorado.

Both branches of the Colorado Legislature approved a bill calling for stricter state supervision over labor unions. The measure would require labor unions to incorporate and submit regular financial reports to the state government. The sitdown strike and secondary boycott are classified as unfair labor practices. Another provision prohibits union initiation fees for temporary workers.

Secretary James A. Brownlow of the State Federation of Labor, said the bill is a "declaration of war on labor" and that its constitutionality will be tested.

Paint Your Legs, Girls!

To aid the program for producing rayon for tires, WPB put high-tenacity viscose rayon yarns under strict control March 1, limiting yarn for manufacture of hosiery among other civilian goods. The yarns, needed also for making such items as "flarachutes" and cargo parachutes, will go primarily to plants working on war contracts.

Slavery Marches On Deep in the Heart of Texas

Corpus Christi, Texas.

A 48-year-old Negro farm worker, Alfred Irwin, testified at the trial of his employers, under federal indictment here on charges of keeping Irwin in slavery and peonage, that for four years they beat him, starved him and used him instead of a horse to pull a plow.

Irwin stripped to the waist in the courtroom and exhibited old sears and marks on his back, stomach, chest and arms, tokens of frequent beatings inflicted by Alex L. Skrobarcyzk, 62-year-old farmer, and his daughter Susie.

Government witnesses confirmed Irwin's statements, testifying that they had seen the worker beaten many times with chains, clubs and bull whips until he bled. Irwin lived in a chicken house and was given only flour and dry corn to eat.

When asked why he remained on the farm for four years, Irwin replied in a low voice: "I was cowed. I was afraid to leave."

It takes some pretty hard facts to make an impression on a softheaded man.

THE MARCH OF LABOR

